

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 1, 1996

Contact: Kristy Khachigian
(202) 225-2132

ISTOOK RATED IN TOP 5% OF WASTECUTTERS

Citizens Against Government Waste Compiles Study on Key Spending Votes in House

Washington, D.C. -- Rep. Ernest J. Istook, Jr. (R-Okla.) is a “taxpayer’s hero,” and rates in the top 5 percent in Congress for fighting waste and abuse in government spending, according to the annual study by Citizens Against Government Waste (CAGW). The study focused on 45 votes in the House of Representatives in 1995. CAGW selected those votes that focused on eliminating government waste or reducing costs to taxpayers. Out of all 435 members of Congress, Istook ranked 93.18%, out of a possible 100%.

Istook rated at the very top among the 56 members of the Appropriations Committee, which makes federal spending decisions. (Istook tied with one other member for the top spot, as the top waste cutter out of all 56 committee members.) In addition, he rated *twice as high* as the 46.18% average of all those serving on Appropriations. The 93.18% rating also is nearly double the 53% average for all Members of the House. Istook has earned CAGW’s “taxpayer’s hero” award each of the three years he has served in Congress.

Istook stated, **“I am delighted to be called a ‘taxpayer’s hero’ by Citizens Against Government Waste. Their study is on what Members actually DO to cut government spending, not what they only say they will do. I will continue my efforts to reduce federal spending and eliminate waste.”**

#